GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
MINERALS FOUND IN CHINA
Mane Smt. Nivedita

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has found minerals like Iron-ore, Zinc etc. in large quantities along the Qinghai-Tibet railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it will affect our export of Iron-ore to China and also affecting balance of trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the export of minerals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b)There were reports in the Chinese media recently about the discovery of minerals like iron ore, copper ore, lead ore and zinc ore along the Qinghai-Tibet rail route.

(c)&(d)It is premature to comment on the impact of new finds in China on Indian mineral exports.

(e) Efforts are being made to modernise mining for cost effective production, improve quality, reduce transaction cost and augment infrastructural facilities.